

Binghamton University
Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes April 10th, 2026

Approved

Attendees: John K. Donovan (BSO), James Sobel, Cláudia N. H. Marques (Chair), Lori Cole, Jeff Oliver, Diego Salazar Amoretti

Admin: Stephen Kamper (recording secretary)

Absent: Suzin Webb, Sha Jin and Bridget McCane Saunders

- I. Chair Marques called the meeting to order at 12:55.
- II. Approval of Agenda- K. Sauer moved to accept the agenda as written and L. Cole seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no dissention.
- III. Approval of Minutes from October 28th, 2025- K. Sauer moved to accept the minutes as written and J. Sobel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no dissention.
- IV. S. Kamper provided the following data of biosafety protocol review activity:
 - There are currently 70 active biosafety protocols
 - 10 are under review: 4 initial; 3 amendments; 3 continuing reviewsSince the October 28th 2025 meeting:
 - 33 protocols have closed
 - 21 amendments have been approved
 - 15 continuing reviews have been approved
 - 1 with a Chair clarification requested
 - 11 new protocols have been approved
- V. Chair Report- Chair C. N. H. Marques reported:

- Reiterated that review times for committee members have been extended to 7 *working* days; Chair and BSO both have 5 working days
- She has been looking into including biosafety committee overview of toxins. Awareness of their use has come through purchasing agreements and there is a particular concern over the use of cholera. K. Sauer added this is a grey area and concentration levels should be considered. J. Sobel asked how toxins were different than other hazardous chemicals and suggested that biological and chemical agent policy differences may be necessary.

VI. Biological Safety Officer K. Donovan reported:

- He is monitoring Kaiming Ye's (deceased) lab through the "cleaning out" process. No research is evident and he has been advising the students on the necessary precautions
- As of last week, the Biomedical Engineering department has a new autoclave C. N. H. Marques added they have shared it with the biology department.
- The BSO reemphasized his desire to see a certified, operable autoclave installed in the Biotechnology building
- Stated that autoclaves should be certified. K. Sauer expressed concern about the record keeping process required to validate certifications
- Hazardous biological waste has increased from 100 to 120 boxes per month at a cost of about \$35.00/box. One reason for the increase is the blood and tissue disposal resulting from the closing of the Anthropology department's serum lab

VII. New Items:

1. Savage Amendment to use Lentivirus in study involving rats:
 - C. N. H. Marques explained that the virus used is non-replicable, but if the animal has been exposed to other viruses that contain a protein that is advantageous to the Lentivirus, the lentivirus could become replicable.
 - L. Cole stated that disposable rat cages would be necessary and bedding changes and disposed of as a biohazard every 5 days at minimum. She also explained the procedures would require BSL-2 controls for rats which the animal facility is currently not set up for. K. Sauer suggested that we need to investigate the guidelines for how non-replicating viruses behave in rats prior to approving the work

- A motion to *table* the amendment until the next meeting was made by C. N. H. Marques and was seconded by K. Sauer. It passed without dissent.

2. Review of additional initial protocol and amendment submissions:

- An amendment to add material to an approved protocol was submitted by PI, Dr. A. Chapman. The amendment was reviewed by the committee. A clarification request was submitted by L. Cole to update the SOP document. The document was updated and the updates were satisfactory for L. Cole. C. N. H. Marques moved to approve the amendment and J.K. Donovan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no dissention.
- Two protocols were submitted by PI Dr. D. Davies. The protocols were submitted to replace previously IBC approved protocols that were expiring. There were no significant changes to the new protocols. The SOPs were updated, per Chair C. N. H. Marques' request. The committee reviewed the protocols and had no concerns. C. N. H. Marques moved to approve the protocols and J.K. Donovan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no dissention.

3. Discussion about responsibility for biosafety cabinet NuAire model NU-677-400, serial number 176851102816 in ScV (rm. 114) shared space.

- L. Cole reported there is currently a biosafety cabinet in rm. 114 of the Science V building shared space that was not being used and would require recertification if recommissioned. She suggested that a PI from the Psychology Department may be interested in using the space and cabinet.
- C. N. H. Marques explained that the space and cabinet was currently assigned to the Biomedical Engineering (BME) department and the Chair of the department should be contacted to determine if the space and cabinet can be made available for use.
Action Item: S. Kamper will contact the BME Chair to determine if space and cabinet can be made available to another department. S. Kamper will schedule the cabinet's re-certification as necessary.

4. BBRC Workshop discussion: C. N. H. Marques reported that a new funding appropriation will jeopardize the *Working with Microorganisms* workshop that the Biology Department has been hosting each semester. She stressed the importance of this workshop for the purpose of training other departments that were venturing into bacterial work and historically lack formal training for it. K. Sauer suggested that this training could be combined with AAV use training for PI's proposing to work with viral agents.

Adjournment: C. N. H. Marques moved to adjourn the meeting and J. Sobel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no dissent. The meeting adjourned at 2:18p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Stephen Kamper
Research Compliance Coordinator
Research Compliance Office

April 13th, 2026